

Appl. No.: 09/880,695
Group Art Unit: 1621
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(b)(1)

Amendments to the Claims

The "Listing of Claims" replaces all prior versions and listings of claims.

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a mixture of fatty alcohols having an iodine number in the range from 65 to 85 of the formula (I)



wherein R^1 is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched radical having from 14 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein the process comprises the steps of:

- (a) fractionating palm oil fatty acid methyl esters to produce a first methyl ester fraction comprised substantially of saturated C_{16} esters and a bottom product which is a second methyl ester fraction comprised substantially of unsaturated $\text{C}_{16/18}$ esters, and
- (b) hydrogenating the bottom fraction to give the corresponding alcohols under conditions such that the carbon-carbon double bonds remain intact.